

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CU-02 OIC-02 EB-07 OMB-01

CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 COME-00 DODE-00

H-02 NSC-05 SS-15 /090 W
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R 151915Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2962

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3581

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE PFOR XG

SUBJECT: CSCE POLICY: GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR HUMAN CONTACTS AND
INFORMATION

REF: GENEVA 3570

1. FULL TEXT OF WESTERN GLOBAL INITIATIVE ON HUMAN
CONTACTS AND INFORMATION (REFTEL) WAS PRESENTED
MAY 15 TO EASTERN DELS BY US, UK, IRISH, AND DANISH REPS.
SOVIETS, WHO WERE INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF WESTERN INITIATIVE,
SHOWED UP AT MEETING ACCOMPANIED BY ALL WARSAW PACT DELS,
INCLUDING ROMANAINS.

2. UK SERVED AS MAIN WESTERN SPOKESMAN IN MAKING PRESENTA-
TION, FOLLOWED BY GENERAL STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT BY OTHER
WESTERN DELS. UK REP, SPEAKING FROM TALKING POINTS,
ENUMERATED THE CHANGES FROM EARLIER WESTERN TEXTS,
STRESSING THAT THESE CONSTITUTED SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS
MADE IN AN EFFORT TO SPEED UP CONFERENCE PROGRESS. HE
MADE REFERENCE TO BERZHNEV LETTER, AND TO POSSIBLE
FAVORABLE EFFECT OF PROGRESS ON THESE SUBJECTS AT UPCOMING
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HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS. WHILE AVOIDING TERMING THE TEXT A

GLOBAL PROPOSAL OR PACKAGE DEAL, UK REP SAID IT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS AN ENTITY SINCE IT REPRESENTED AN OVERALL BALANCE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT IWAS WAS NOT OFFERED ON A TAKE-IT-OR-LEAVE-IT BASIS, AND SAID THAT HE ANTICIPATED THE EAST WOULD WISH TO MAKE SOME AMENDMENTS EVENTUALLY TO FINALIZE EACH COMPONENT TEXT SEPARATELY. HOWEVER, HE INDICATED THAT SHOULD THE EAST NOT GIVE A REACTION TO THE WESTERN INITIATIVE AS A WHOLE WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME, OR INSIST ON FAR-REACHING AMENDMENTS, WESTERN DELEGATIONS WOULD HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO RETURN TO TIME-CONSUMING STEP-BY-STEP NEGOTIATIONS ON EACH COMPONENT TEXT SEPARATELY. IN THIS EVENT, THE INTERNAL BALANCE OF THE OVERALL TEXT WOULD NO LONGER EXIST, AND THE WEST WOULD HAVE TO TABLE APPROPRIATE NEW DRAFTS REFLECTING ITS DESIDERATE ON THIS BASIS.

3. SOVIET BASKET III CHIEF DUBININ SAID HIS DELEGATION WOULD REFLECT ON THE WESTERN INITIATIVE, BUT NOTED IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO DECIDE ON PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH

INITIATIVE UNTIL AFTER WP DELS HAD CONSIDERED THE TEXT. NEVERTHELESS, HE QUESTIONED WHETHER THE TEXT WOULD REPRESENT MEANINGFUL WESTERN CONCESSIONS, SUGGESTING IT MIGHT BE NO MORE THAN AN INADEQUATE REDUCTION OF EARLIER INFLATED WESTERN DEMANDS. HE PROPOSED PUTTING THE TEXT TO ONE SIDE FOR THE MOMENT, AND CONTINUING DISCUSSION ON THE TRAVEL TEXT. WESTERN DELS AGREED TO DISCUSS TRAVEL IN ORDER NOT TO APPEAR OBSTRUCTIVE, BUT PUT OFF INFORMAL MEETING ON TRAVEL TEXT UNTIL MAY 21 TO AFFORD SOVIETS TIME TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY FIND GLOBAL TEXT ATTRACTIVE.

4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE IT IS AN ENCOURAGING SIGN THAT DUBININ ACCEPTED WESTERN TEXT, IF NOT IN A PARTICULARLY POSITIVE SPIRIT, AT LEAST NOT IN A COMBATIVE ONE. HIS PROPOSAL TO CONTINUE TO DISCUSS TRAVEL IN ISOLATION WAS PROBABLY INTENDED AS A REMINDER THAT THE SOVIETS ARE NOT PREPARED, AT LEAST AT THIS POINT, TO ACCEPT WESTERN GROUND RULES ON THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE. HOEFULLY BY THE MAY 21 MEETING ON TRAVEL WE WILL HAVE SOME PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS OF HOW THE SOVIETS PLAN TO RESPOND TO

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THE WEST'S GLOBAL INITIATIVE. DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, INFORMATION MEDIA, SOCIAL CHANGE, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GENEVA03581
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750171-1190
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750550/aaaabsyj.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 GENEVA 3570
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE POLICY: GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR HUMAN CONTACTS AND INFORMATION
TAGS: PFOR, XG, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006